

BERLE, BERLE, AGEE & LAND  
70 Pine Street  
New York 5, N. Y.

August 1, 1949

My dear Secretary Koehler:

I acknowledge with thanks your letter of July 11.

The outstanding fact is that five months after a reasonable and responsible attempt to take up this matter through the Navy, we still have not yet had even the elementary American right to have charges stated, and a clear disposition of the matter. Meanwhile the Navy has felt quite justified in continuing the equivalent of a secret blacklist and permitting a secondary boycott.

We are still anxious, of course, to solve the matter, if possible, within the framework of the Department of National Defense.

You inquire about the American Ceramics incident. The matter, unimportant in itself, is indicative of what is going on. It relates to a contract by one of the other Armed Services, a boycott as to Philips having been imposed by the Navy. When you are ready for a real hearing, full facts will be presented.

I regret that this letter is blunt. Under the circumstances you will agree that bluntness is justified. Run-arounds have to end sometime.

Very truly yours,

A. A. Berle, Jr.

Honorable John Koehler,  
Assistant Secretary of the Navy,  
National Military Establishment,  
Pentagon Building, Washington, D. C.

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